

YOFAM Web site offers one-stop shopping

By Tech. Sgt. Carl Norman, AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio (AFMCNS) - Air Force Materiel Command officials here launched the new, redesigned AFMC Year of the Family internet site Jan. 22, offering everyone one-stop shopping for YOFAM information.

There are two web sites with the same content, said Niki Foor, AFMC's family matters chief. One is a public-access site that people can access from home computers and the other is a government-access site people can access only if they're using a computer within the "dot gov" or "dot mil" domain.

"These sites contain information about Gen. (Lester) Lyles' initiative to improve the quality of life for the AFMC family - YOFAM," Foor said. "This will provide a central location to link to all of the quality of life services on our AFMC installations."

The web site is a direct result of an AFMC Community Action Information Board initiative, according to Chuck Ritchey, site designer.

"The CAIB has been addressing the issue of communication - how to make information about quality of life accessible," he said. "The 'Current Quality of Life Services' link on the YOFAM page provides a logically organized, easily accessible link to all quality of life pages on an installation."

Foor said the site includes information like new quality of life services, family feedback and more. People can also make suggestions for new or improved services, as long as they have command-wide applicability.

She cautioned people to send installation specific suggestions to the installation points of contact and not through the command site. The YOFAM site is intended for suggestions that are applicable command wide.

The bottom line, according to Foor, is, "To make it easy for AFMC family members to access information about quality of life initiatives and about the command's Year of the Family."

People wanting to access information from their home computers should visit: <http://afmc.wpafb.af.mil/public/HQ-AFMC/DP/YOFAM>.

The restricted access address (to access page from the military domain) is: <https://www.afmc-mil.wpafb.af.mil/HQ-AFMC/DP/YOFAM/>. @

Air Force calls for inspection of protective masks

ROBINS AFB, Ga. (AFPN) — Air Force worldwide are undergoing a complete inspection of their primary chemical protective mask inventory because of "disbanding," or separation, in some of the masks. The inspection of the MCU-2A/P masks is expected to take about three months.

Air Force officials said not all masks appear to have the condition, and engineering evaluations are under way to determine how the disbanding affects the mask's performance. The Air Force has about 289,000 masks in the inventory; however, it is not yet known how many are affected. @

Residents should be aware of carbon monoxide danger

By Tech. Sgt. Michael A. Ward

Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency Public Affairs

TYNDALL AFB, Fla. (AFPN) — Residents in cold weather areas could be facing unexpected danger — carbon monoxide poisoning.

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Carbon monoxide is produced by the incomplete burning of fossil fuels such as natural gas, oil, propane, coal or wood. The biggest culprits in homes are fossil fuel burning furnaces, fireplaces and stoves.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas. Symptoms of poisoning include nausea, dizziness or headaches, drowsiness, inattention or fatigue. More serious symptoms include lack of coordination, weakness and confusion. The effects of mild poisoning can be reversed if caught in time; however, severe poisoning can result in brain or heart damage, or death.

Two years ago, a Navy petty officer, his two children and two stepchildren died from carbon monoxide poisoning at Meridian Naval Air Station, Miss. Since then two separate cases of carbon monoxide poisoning were reported at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. Fortunately, no one died, but family members were reported as ill. Because of those incidents, the Navy ordered carbon monoxide detectors installed in 75,000 of its housing units, and last year the Air Force began installing alarms in all Air Force housing units that burn fossil fuels.

Occasionally, carbon monoxide alarms will activate prematurely even though there may not be a significant amount of carbon monoxide present.

Alarms installed in Air Force housing are newer models that meet underwriters laboratories' updated standards. Those standards help reduce false alarms by requiring detectors to sound when potentially threatening levels of gas are present for an extended period.

While alarms offer a greater sense of security for housing residents, the Air Force is focusing on eliminating the problem - faulty heating equipment.

Although most off-base communities have not mandated carbon monoxide detectors, there is some demand for them from homeowners and renters. Detectors cost \$40-60 and can be purchased at most hardware stores.@

Uniform board results in effect

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The 95th Uniform Board's results were effective Feb. 1. Air Force Instruction 36-2903 states Air Force Uniform Board results take effect when incorporated into the instruction. However, because of the extended time required to update the instruction, the uniform board's results will become effective next month.

The results of the board are:

- When wearing ribbons, all — including devices — are required.
- Fingernail length cannot interfere with duty performance or hinder proper fit of prescribed safety equipment or uniform items.
- Attaché' cases, gym bags, backpacks and women's purses are authorized to be carried in either hand, but cannot interfere with giving a proper salute.
- Attachments for access badges/passes are authorized (plain dark blue or black ropes, silver or plastic small link chains, and clear plastic chain) as long as they do not interfere with safety; they must be conservative and free of advertisement.
- Center the excellence – in – competition badge on the welt pocket of the service dress jacket.
- Pharmacy technician certification badge may be worn on the utility uniform (whites) ½ inch above nametag.
- "Camel pack" water containers are approved as part of standard hot weather uniform.

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— The re-sized mini-badge is authorized for wear when available for purchase. Although the topic of nametags was not addressed by the board, questions continually arise, according to personnel officials. The AFI states nametags must be “laminated ultramarine blue plastic material with white, block-style letters engraved on the plastic and a clutch-type fastener.”

Additionally, the instruction states no additions can be made. Epoxy resin covered or coated nametags are not authorized. @

Airman’s Manual available online

By Senior Airman Russ Martin
Ogden Air Logistics Center Public Affairs

HILL AFB, Utah (AFPN) — A web-based Airman’s Manual training program designed to keep Ogden Air Logistics Center airmen up to date is finding an audience with Air Force people worldwide.

The website, conceived by 1st Lt. Chris McDaniel, Ogden ALC Space and C3I Systems Directorate, was designed to give deployed airmen and people too busy for standard training the ability to stay current on the manual.

The Airman’s Manual, Air Force Manual 10-100, is a field book containing practical information and color photographs describing a multitude of tasks for operations in austere locations. The manual covers subjects like pitching a tent, reading a grid map, decontamination and first aid. @

For those with a .gov or .mil address, the Airman’s Manual is available online at <https://commweb.hill.af.mil/AMT/>. @